

Acknowledging Treaty 7 lands, the traditional territory of the Nitsatapi, Tsuu T'ina and Stoney Nakoda Nations, and part of Metis Region 3



Photo: Travel Alberta

# The Case for an Eastern Slopes Coal Moratorium

Calgary Citizens on Climate Change (4C)





# Who are Calgary Citizens on Climate Change (4C)

- A diverse group of mostly retired non-partisan citizens concerned about climate change
- Trying to make a difference for the next seven generations





# Climate Impact

- Climate impact which must be #1 consideration
- 1976 coal policy did not include climate impact
- Alberta climate is being destabilized e.g. wildfires, floods, droughts



# Climate Impact... Cont'd

- Water shortages, impact to agriculture, tourism, food security
- Health care system impact / decreasing quality of life
- Extreme weather events increasing e.g. wind, thunderstorms



# Problems with allowing coal exploration and development in the Eastern Slopes

- Water quality - e.g. selenium pollution
- Water allocations, scarcity
- Agriculture, ranching
- Impact to downstream communities, businesses and ecosystems



# Intrinsic Value

- Spiritual connection to land, water
- Health (mental, physical) benefits to Alberta residents and visitors
- Difficult to assess monetary value of natural capital
- Beauty in nature has an intrinsic, aesthetic value
- Ecological integrity has value for future generations



# Conclusions

- Short term: Benefits do not outweigh costs/risks
- Long term: Stewardship for seven future generations, linked to indigenous principles and acknowledgement



# Recommendations

- The Committee report should include input from
  - a climatologist and
  - a water impact specialist
- A moratorium on all coal mine exploration should be implemented immediately





Photo: Bob Hawkesworth

Questions?  
Thank you for your time and consideration

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